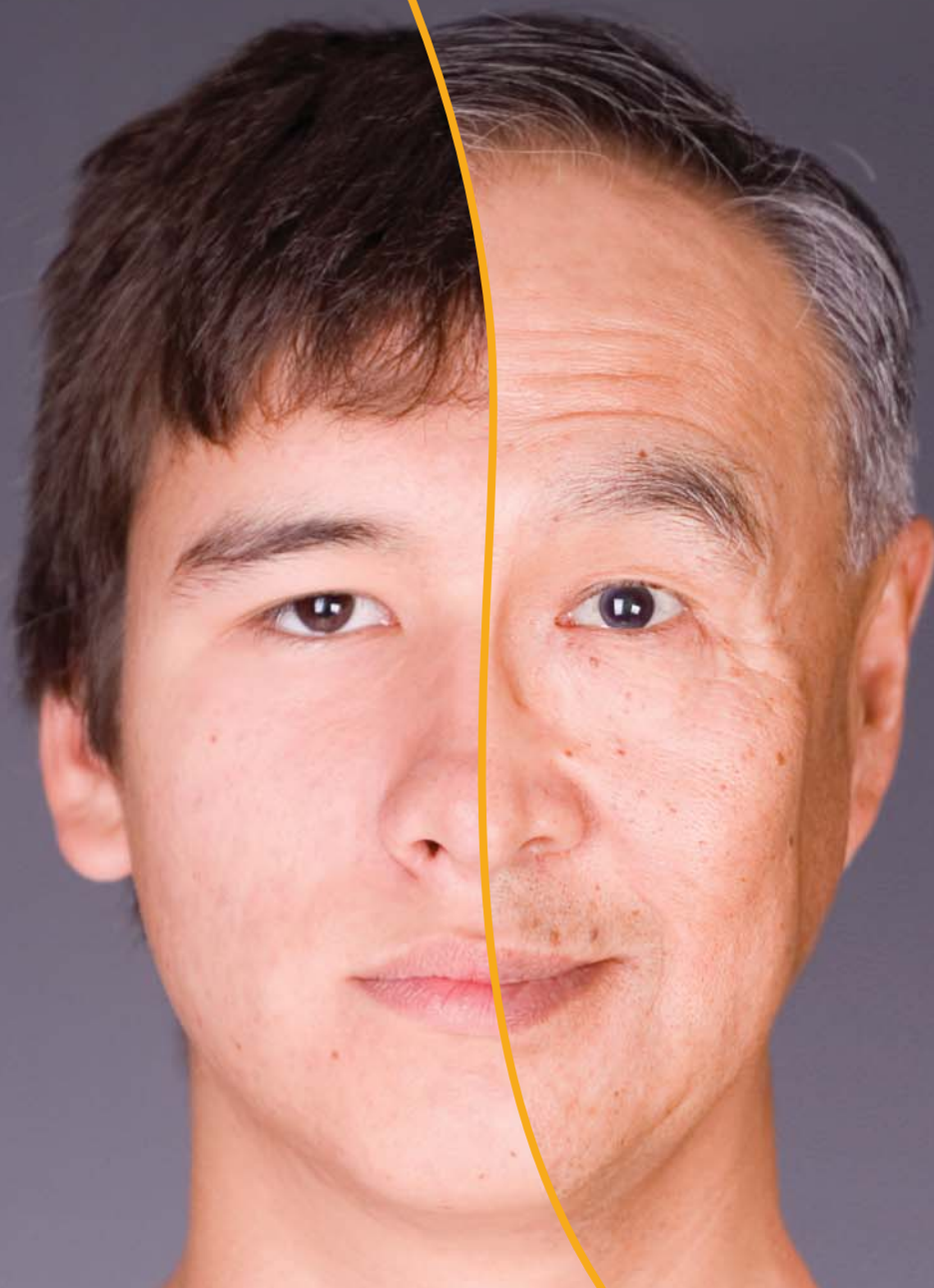




respect for Native life:

restoring balance & sense of belonging



AFN/First Alaskans Elders & Youth Conference
Anchorage, Alaska • Egan Civic & Convention Center • October 23-24, 2006

on the cover: Nelson Angapak, Yup'ik (right side) from Tuuntutuliak, serves as Executive Vice President of the Alaska Federation of Natives; and River Knowles, Yup'ik (left side) from Mountain Village, a student at Robert Service High School. Photos by Vince Penman: www.vincepenman.com.

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respect for Native life:

restoring balance & sense of belonging

show respect to others each person has a special gift

share what you have giving makes you richer

know who you are you are a reflection on your family

accept what life brings you cannot control many things

have patience some things cannot be rushed

live carefully what you do will come back to you

take care of others you cannot live without them

honor your Elders they show you the way in life

pray for guidance many things are not known

see connections all things are related

Welcome to the 2006 Elders & Youth Conference

On behalf of the Board of Directors of the Alaska Federation of Natives and the Board of Trustees of the First Alaskans Institute, we are honored to welcome you to the 2006 Elders and Youth Conference. In the next two days, you will have the opportunity to discuss your own ideas to advance the goal of HEALTHY NATIVE COMMUNITIES.

In 1984, AFN held its first youth conference, with 54 Native high school students. Soon, a separate Elders Conference was added to convention-week events. In the 1990s, the two events were combined, giving different generations of Alaska Natives the opportunity to work together. Over the years, conference attendance has grown to more than twelve times what it was 22 years ago. This gathering connects our young people, the next generation of Native leadership, with our respected Elders, the culture bearers who link us to our heritages.

2006 is the third year in which AFN has asked First Alaskans to plan and implement the Elders and Youth Conference. This fits well with First Alaskans' priorities, which are public policy analysis/research and leadership development. We give a forum and voice to the Native intellect, in all its generations.

This year's conference theme is "Respect for Native Life: Restoring Balance & A Sense of Belonging." Our land and cultures are the foundation of who we are as Native peoples. The 2006 conference will emphasize the core of what it means to be an Alaska Native – the richness of our languages and histories, the significance of community and family, and the importance of knowing who we are and where we come from. Our Elders teach us that when we live a healthy life and connect with who we are, we can make good choices for the future of our peoples.

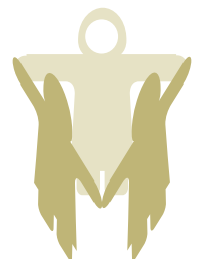
In that spirit, we are delighted to welcome you; and we know that you will have a wonderful experience. You honor us all by your presence and your efforts.



Julie E. Kitka
President, Alaska Federation of Natives



Janie Leask
President, First Alaskans Institute



What I Commit to do to Make a Difference

In the 2004 regional breakouts, youth participants were asked to fill out a postcard addressed to themselves with a personal commitment to make a difference when they go home. Here is what young people from your region said:

"I commit to encourage my peers to stay in school and healthy. I also commit to stay drug and alcohol free."

- **Peter F.M. Ewan, Copper Center**

"I want to graduate from college, go back to my village to teach the Unangax language to the young children and babies in my village, and start a language immersion program."

- **Crystal Swetzof, Atka**

"I want to start talking to my papa about his childhood."

- **Nikki Dill, Unalakleet**

"I will vote. I will listen. I will speak. I will teach. I will preach. I will reach. I will dream. I will try. And I will win."

- **Matthew Rexford, Kaktovik**

"I will encourage others to make your voice heard, not back down on issues that concern you, your community and your future. You can make a difference. Be the leader, not the follower and make an impact."

- **Bethany Tennyson, Dillingham**

"I will do my best in school and to make better choices, like not becoming a statistic by drinking or smoking, and to encourage my friends to do the same."

- **Karissa Peter, Fairbanks**

"I want to learn more about our culture and our Inupiaq ways. If you know more about where you come from, you will know more about yourself!"

- **Roger Mitchell Jr., Noatak**

8:00	Invocation	Pastor Davis Hobson, Dena'ina Athabascan First Native Baptist Church
8:05	Color Guard	Bartlett High School JROTC
8:15	National Anthem	
8:20	Welcome	Willie Hensley, Inupiaq First Alaskans Institute Senator Albert Kookesh, Tlingit Alaska Federation of Natives
8:30	Cultural Procession	Maniksaq Baumgartner, Inupiaq Cultural Procession: The purpose is to celebrate Native identity. Dance groups from each of the five regions will be represented and Native leaders will be recognized.
9:00	Keynote Address	Mayor Edward Itta, Inupiaq North Slope Borough
9:15	Youth Keynote Address	Debra Naaqtuuq Dommek, Inupiaq Keynote Addresses: The purpose of the two keynote addresses is to allow a leader and a youth the opportunity to say what they feel about the theme and conference purpose.
9:30	Conference Overview	Tiffany Tutiakoff, Yup'ik/Athabascan Conference Overview: The purpose is to introduce the agenda and its connections to the theme throughout the conference, showing how the presentations, workshops, and regional breakouts are geared toward preparing participants to go home and contribute to their communities.
9:40	Fish Splitting Demo	Feona Sawden, Port Graham
10:00	Aniak Dragon Slayers	Candi Nickolie, Garrett Sanbie, Stephanie Hamilton and Pete Brown
10:30	Poetry Reading: <i>This Map</i>	Joy Shockley, Koyukon Athabascan
10:40	Guiding Voices	Tiffany Tutiakoff, Yup'ik/Athabascan Alaska Mental Health Trust Authority
11:00	Village Council Meeting Skit	Christine Hall, Bryan Ahkiviana, Gordon Aya, Warner Sund, Andrea Justin, Kim Gover, Gertrude Hootch, Adrienne Martin, Amber Knowles, Anita Knickerson, Kristen George, Woodrow Ivanoff and Andrea Simeon



11:40	Cultural Presentation	
12:00	Lunch	On your own
1:00	Door Prizes	
1:10	Cultural Presentation	Tlingit and Haida Dancers of Anchorage
1:30	Workshop Instructions	Ethan Schutt, Koyukon Athabaskan
1:40	Workshops	

Space 2 Every Native American Makes a Difference

Howard Rainer, Creek/Taos Pueblo

Motivational speaker and group leader Howard Rainer is a poet and photographer, as well as a thoughtful, compassionate and strong-willed speaker who has dedicated himself to motivating young Native Americans.

Space 3 Raven Odyssey

Ishmael Hope, Tlingit/Inupiaq and P.J. Paperelli; Perseverance Theatre

This workshop will connect Elders and youth through the tradition of storytelling. Elders will share their stories about the raven, and members of the Perseverance Theatre will show and perform parts of their film "Raven Odyssey."

Space 4 The Power of Vision

Brian Frejo, Pawnee/Seminole; Culture Shock Camp

This is a dynamic, funny, interactive workshop that will work with participants and dare them to dream, visualize and realize their power to achieve their personal potential as Native people.

Space 5 Stop the Drop(out): Crossing the Line

Greta Goto, Yup'ik, Malia Villegas, Alutiiq/Sugpiaq, Dewey Hoffman, Koyukon Athabaskan; Alaska Native Policy Center

Do you know someone who has dropped out of high school? Are you concerned about their future? Come discuss how we can stop the high school dropout crisis and encourage our friends to stay in school. You will participate in an interactive exercise called "Crossing the Line." The goal of this workshop is to understand the facts and discuss how, together, we can respond to this problem.

Space 6 Gwisheei: "Knowledge" in Gwich'in

Chief Dr. David Salmon, Gwich'in Athabaskan and Janet Curtiss, Gwich'in Athabaskan

Chief Dr. David Salmon will tell stories and talk about his traditional Gwich'in Athabaskan upbringing deep in Interior Alaska. Come join Chief Dr. David Salmon and Janet Curtiss for a presentation that includes pictures and traditional storytelling by one of Alaska's respected Elders.

Space 7 We know our land best. Help us help the land.

Crystal "Cisquq" Leonetti, Yup'ik/Aleut; Natural Resources Conservation Service

This workshop will help participants develop their own "7 generations" plan to manage their land using a solid foundation of traditional knowledge and modern science. Come learn how you can protect our lands using methods from our Native cultures.

Space 8 Creative Ways to Learn Your Native Language

Ronald Brower, Inupiaq; Alaska Native Language Center

Walkie Charles, Yup'ik; Alaska Native Language Center

Donita Peters, Dena'ina Athabascan; Alaska Native Heritage Center

Come hear a presentation from Alaska Native language teachers and learners about how you can use new resources and approaches to learn or teach your language. The goal of the workshop is to provide you with the tools and information necessary to help preserve a crucially important part of our heritage.

Space 9 Traditional Values/Contemporary Solutions

Allan Hayton, Gwich'in Athabascan; Association of Alaska School Boards

An interactive workshop that will look at traditional Alaska Native values from the perspective of Elders. These values can be used by the Native community to address many of the challenges of today's world.

Space 10 Choosing a College and Paying for It

Andrea Kavlaq Van Ravenswaay, Inupiaq/Hopi/Luiseno, Nonabah Sam, Tesuque Pueblo and
Lisa Nason, Inupiaq

Choosing where you want to go to college is a very personal decision that can be difficult. This workshop will inform you of the many types of schools available and how to select one based on your own preferences and needs. Also, participants will understand what financial aid is and how to apply for it.

Space 11 & 12 Encouraging Alaska Native Youth to Strive for Professional Level Careers

Nasruk Nay, Inupiaq; Alaska State Troopers

Nasruk Nay and other successful Alaska Native role models will discuss success in their own careers and how to take charge of your future as an Alaska Native. Come be inspired, and learn how you can achieve a professional career!

Foraker Room Got Games?

Charlie Ess, Ernestine Stepetin, Aleut, Chris Ivon, Yup'ik, Willie Attie, Yup'ik, Natalia Inga, Alutiiq; Alaska Job Corps

Through fun, hands-on activities, participants will get to practice their teamwork and leadership skills. They will discuss how the activities helped them learn about leadership styles and their usefulness in challenging situations. You will be able to apply these skills in everyday life.

Redoubt Room Organizing Events and Activities in Native Communities

Matthew Sena, Taos Pueblo/African American/Mexican; Chugachmiut

Come learn how to create change in your community and how to turn your great idea for an event into a reality. Learn about organizing activities, events, conferences and workshops, especially with regard to family wellness.

3:40 Door Prizes

3:50 Roundtable All Participants

Roundtable: The purpose is to open the floor to participants who want to ask questions, reflect on issues raised, encourage peers, and/or make comments.

4:00 UA Scholars Program Reception in Space 2

4:45 Cultural Presentation

5:00 Door Prizes and Recess

Youth Dance: 7:30-10:30 p.m. at the Egan Center Explorers Hall. Must have a ticket. Chaperones must be in attendance.

8:00	Early Bird Door Prizes	
8:10	Cultural Performance	Kodiak Alutiiq Dancers
8:30	Agenda Overview	Rocky Estrada, Tlingit
8:40	NYO Demonstration	Native Youth Olympics; CITC
9:00	Meth Watch	Deputy Chief Ross Plummer Anchorage Police Department
9:30	Leadership: Participate in Your Future	Terzah Poe, Inupiaq Doris Hugo-Shavings, Inupiaq
9:35	Taking Responsibility of Our Languages, Our Culture, Our Future	Megan Alvanna-Stimpfle, King Island Inupiaq Deanna Strunk, Yup'ik
9:55	Workshop Instructions	Lexi Staheli, Inupiaq
10:00	Workshops	

Space 2 Voices of Native Elders: Preparing for the Future

Charmaine Ramos, Tlingit, George Charles, Yup'ik, and Jim Labelle, Inupiaq; American Association of Retired Persons, Alaska State Office

Come and learn about social security, retirement assets, coverage for quality health care, affordable housing options, and much more. This workshop will include an overview of AARP and its programs, services and materials for Alaska Native Elders.

Space 3 Raven Odyssey

Ishmael Hope, Tlingit/Inupiaq, and PJ Paperelli; Perseverance Theatre

This workshop will connect Elders and youth through the tradition of storytelling. Elders will share their stories about the Raven, and members of the Perseverance Theatre will show and perform part of their film "Raven Odyssey."

Space 4 The Power of Vision

Brian Frejo, Pawnee/Seminole; Culture Shock Camp

This is a dynamic, funny, interactive workshop that will work with participants and dare them to dream, visualize and realize their power to achieve their personal potential as Native people.

Space 5 Subsistence Knowledge and Relationships: Ways to Celebrate our Identity

Joy Shockley, Koyukon Athabascan; Council of Athabascan Tribal Governments

This workshop focuses on the relationship between youth and Elders and the celebration of Native identity through the protection of our subsistence foods and resources. By focusing on natural resource protection, Native people can take ownership of their homelands, their communities and their futures.



Tuesday, October 24, 2006

Space 6 Boarding School Roundtable

This will be an opportunity for you to discuss the history of boarding schools in Alaska. We will learn about successful boarding schools, like Mt. Edgecumbe and Nenana, and the possibility of regional boarding schools across the state. Come and give your thoughts during this facilitated discussion.

Space 7 How I Found Balance for My Life

Ramy Brooks, Athabascan/Yup'ik; Alaska Mental Health Trust Authority

Ramy's story will encourage you with the message that you hold the key and have the skills to improve the statistics on youth suicide, depression and addiction. The workshop will help you build positive attitudes and maintain good mental health and will challenge you to help each other find purpose and a sense of belonging in today's world.

Space 8 ELDER + STUDENT = SUCCESS

Margie Hastings, Yup'ik; Chief Ivan Blunka School

Come talk about the value of having Elders in the classroom. Margie Hastings will talk about the inclusion of Elders in schools as a source of knowledge and Native values. "When students know and appreciate where they come from, they will succeed in most everything they pursue."

Space 9 The Alaska Gas Pipeline: Preparing for Jobs, Careers and the Economy

Dave Rees, John Horskoetter, Shawn Aspelund, Yup'ik and Ryan Ellison; BP Alaska

This presentation and discussion is an opportunity to learn about the technical and economic aspects of the Gas Pipeline and to prepare for the jobs needed to build and operate the line. The presentation will cover the purpose of the pipeline, technologies, location of the line, issues, jobs and planning. Come and learn more.

Space 10 Establishing Financial Success in College through Rural Student Services

Kay Thomas, Aleut and Gabrielle Russell; UAF Rural Student Services

This workshop will address financial aid from tribal funds, corporation monies and other funding sources. It will provide information on how to obtain these funds in a timely manner for college.

Space 11 & 12 Encouraging Alaska Native Youth to Strive for Professional Level Careers

Nasruk Nay; Inupiaq; Alaska State Troopers

Nasruk Nay and other successful Alaska Native role models will discuss success in their own careers and how to take charge of your future as an Alaska Native. Come be inspired, and learn how you can achieve a professional career.

Foraker Room Place-Based Education: A Community Collaboration

Facilitated by Interior-Aleutians Campus

This workshop will focus on place-based education and bring together a panel of village-based employers and representatives from tribal management programs to discuss employment opportunities in rural Alaska.



Redoubt Room *Music of the Ages*

Aleut Community of St. Paul

Everyone loves music. At church, social gatherings, while relaxing, even at work, music gives us a soundtrack to our lives. We would like to explore the relationship between music and our communities - over time, generations, gender and styles. From the eternal drumbeat of our ancestors to the hip hop flava and videos of today there has always been music.

12:00	Lunch	On your own
1:00	Door Prizes	
1:10	Cultural Performance	Hawaiian Delegation
1:30	Regional Breakout Sessions	
	Space 2	Cook Inlet Region
	Space 3	Doyon Region
	Space 4	Bristol Bay Region
	Space 5	Arctic Slope Region
	Space 6	NANA Region
	Space 7	Koniag Region
	Space 8	Bering Straits Region
	Space 9	Chugach Region
	Space 10	Ahtna Region
	Space 11 & 12	Calista Region
	Redoubt Room	Aleut Region
	Foraker Room	Southeast Region
3:30	Door Prizes	Wells Fargo Prizes
3:40	Regional Reports	
	Regional Reports: The purpose is to convey the nature of the regional discussions to conference attendees. Reports will be an important part of the Elders & Youth report to the AFN General Convention. The newly elected Elders & Youth Council members will be recognized.	
4:30	Closing Address and Charge to Participants	Georgianna Lincoln, Koyukon Athabascan
	Closing Address and Charge to Participants: Purpose is to motivate participants, sending them back to their home communities ready to make a change. What will I do to contribute to a healthy community?	
4:40	Cultural Presentation	Minto Dancers
4:55	Benediction	Reverend Anna Frank Episcopal Diocese of Alaska
5:00	Door Prizes and Adjournment	

Elders & Youth Council Participation

Are you interested in serving as a member of the Elders & Youth Council?

As a member of the Elders and Youth Council, you have the opportunity to give input and develop creative ideas which shape the direction of next year's Elders and Youth Conference.

There is one Elder and youth representative and one alternate for each of the twelve regions elected during the regional breakout session. Council members give direction on what topics should be discussed at the conference and serve as MC's, volunteers, and planners.

First Alaskans would like to thank and recognize members of this year's Council:

Elders: Anna Frank (Doyon), Willie Goodwin Jr. (NANA), John Reft (Koniag), Daniel Karmun Sr. (Bering Straits), Florence Sheakley (Sealaska), Feona Sawden (Chugach), Roy Tansey Sr. (Ahtna), Dana Kopanuk (Calista), Jason Bourdukofsky (Aleut), Harry Barnes (Bristol Bay).

Youth: Tina Thomas (Doyon), Lexi Staheli (NANA), Fawn Feneé Chya (Koniag), Katelynn Evan (Bering Straits), Amber Lampe (Sealaska), Sean O'Brien (Chugach), Lorna David (Ahtna), Jaylene Pequeno (Calista), Nadia Melovidov (Aleut), Max Wassile (Bristol Bay).

Elders & Youth Conference Project Team

First Alaskan's thanks this year's Conference Planning Committee.



Left to right: Rocky Estrada (Tlingit), Maniksaq Baumgartner (Inupiaq), Raina Thiele (Dena'ina Athabascan and Yup'ik), Sarah Sherry (Lower Tanana Athabascan), Ethan Schutt (Athabascan). Not pictured: Ted Mayac Sr. (Inupiaq), Valerie Davidson (Yup'ik) and Tiffany Tutiakoff (Yup'ik and Athabascan).

Thank You!

Thank you to the 2006 AFN/First Alaskans Elders and Youth Conference sponsors that support our Alaska Native Elders, youth, and healthy communities with their generous contributions.

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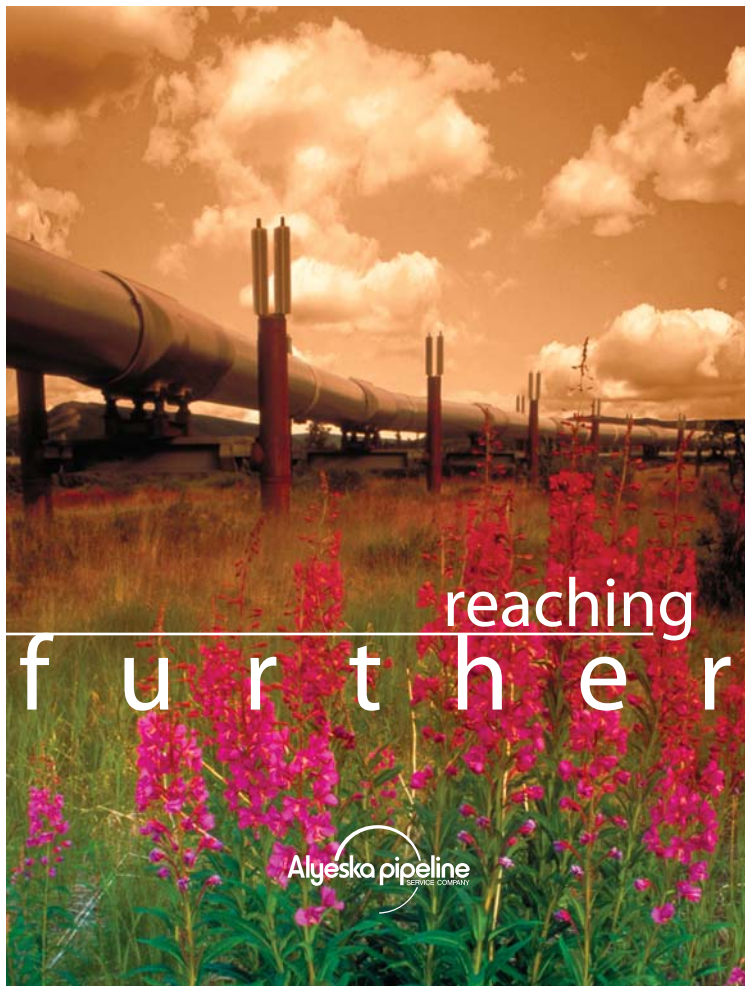
AFN Convention Week Events

Visit the AFN or First Alaskans information tables for more information on events and activities taking place during Convention week or visit www.nativefederation.org or www.firstalaskans.org. The AFN and First Alaskans information tables and the Internet café can be found in the main lobby of the Egan Civic & Convention Center.



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Iñupiat Ilitqusiat Values

*With guidance and support from Elders,
we must teach our children these Iñupiaq values:*

Knowledge of Language	Respect for Elders
Knowledge of Family Tree	Respect for Nature
Sharing	Avoid Conflict
Humility	Family Roles
Respect for Others	Humor
Love for Children	Spirituality
Cooperation	Domestic Skills
Hard Work	Hunter Success
	Responsibility to Tribe

*Our understanding of our universe
and our place in it is a belief in God
and a respect for all His creation.*



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